Nov. 20, 1972

Dear Roger:

I received your letter last week. My half cent activities of the last month have been mostly limited to selling doubles. The last month has given me a chance to begin saving for another "big one." at the present I am undecided what the next big one will be. After picking up the '96 date, an 1831 is becoming increasingly tempting.

There was a small coin show here in Atlanta this weekend when I did buy one half cent. It was an 1808 and a real dog. Badly worn and bent, at least the date was nice and strong. You wonder why I'd buy a dog? You guessed it – the dealer selling it didn't even know it was an overdate. I don't think I'll have any trouble getting my 4 dollars back for it. Of course, I checked and it is #2 not #1.

I've made my first attempts at bidding in some auction sales. I've received catalogues from Stack's, Merkin, & Hollenbeck-Hagen. I'm proceeding

very cautiously on bidding until I get a better idea of how these sales work. If you have any tips that you can pass on to me they would be greatly appreciated. (I hate to learn things the hard way.) Are there other auction catalogues I should be getting?

I gladly return the list of my half cents to you. I doubt if there's anything there to shake up condition census any, but then I'm just getting started. Some of my half cents are really interesting to me. My 1806 #4 has a bold double chin. I also like the 4* break on the 1811. Right now I'm trying to have slides taken of some of my half cents. That would make putting them in the bank a little less painful.

My roommate, Mike Griffith, and I are hoping to put together a display for the big spring show here in Atlanta. We are working on ideas now. We are planning to make

the display a combined large cent - half cent display. Mike will supply the large cents and I will supply the half cents. We plan to limit ourselves to the pre-1815 era with a title something like - "Old Friends from the Early Mint". I might mention too that Mike has a good article on large cents in this month's Penny-Wise. He makes one comment on our "unloved" half cents.

I'll keep you posted if I pick up any new half cents. Keep in touch.

Sincerely,

John.

COGAN
Mailed 11/11/72

2884 TWIN BROOKS DR NE.
APT 3
ATLANTA GA.
30319

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

12/6/72

Cobb

Dear John,

Many thanks for the list of your Collection. Despite what you think it does have a few items I lack. I am entering in my Condition census records. First is the 1802 Cmm #2. Even if the Coin has been "worked on" any of this variety even F-15 is a candidate for the C.C. How do you know its been "worked on" Many of them appear this way due to the use of spoiled large cent for planchets. I would like to see this Coin sometime. The 1803 Cmm #4 is EF-40 is another unusual item. There are 2 pieces in UNC this year. The last one after that is mine which is VF-30 and pictured in my book. Does yours have the rotated reverse? This is another Coin I would like to see. also your 1806 Cmm #4 with the double chin. It sounds as though it may be a double strike. If you get the slides made How about sending them to me.

I can see that you're trying to avoid obtaining low grade specimen and then upgrading. This is a good idea particularly on such Coins as the 1793 but as it stands ~~today~~ Now any R 6, R 7 or R 8 Coin should be obtained in any Condition also even low grade 1793's are going to advance. but the High grade ones will also and at a greater rate. At the present moment I'm trying to upgrade ~~to~~ 2 of my 1793's #1 + #3 and if I find I can get them. But the price!!

I'm enclosing a list of my Collection for your information. It's Not the best Collection in existance when it comes

to Condition but the the only one I have of which all the Circulation Varieties Now known. There is another Collection known as the "Showers Collection" which has all the Proof only Varieties and Most of the Circulation Varieties in at least EF-40. The Varieties Missing are 1794 1b, 2b, 3 - 1795, 1b, - 1797, 3c - 1802, 1 - 1804, 2, 3 - 1808, 1 and 1809, 1 This Collection was formed over a 35 year period by Philip Showers. In 1969 Stacks sold it for him intact to a person who wishes to remain anonymous. Despite all my efforts I can't find out who it is Stacks did ~~however~~ however loan me a book with photos of the Collection so I could work on a Condition Census of the Half Cent Varieties. It's a very interesting Collection.

When it comes to bidding on the various sales just remember that when you bid by Mail you can return if you not satisfied but each Auction House seems to have different standards. I'll list a few with what I consider them to.

1. Stacks - Catalogues is only fair There is a slight tendency to over grade and not Mention small defects in Coins. Prices are seldom bargains. This is due to the large number of Bidders and the fact that they have Floor sessions where any real bargains are picked up by the dealers who attend. I have ~~stood~~ returned Coins one was Misattributed and a few other had defects Not Mentioned in the Catalogue that I thought were important. Generally speaking however I consider them to be Fair rate.

(2) Paramount - Coins are very overgraded and quite frequently misattributed. I always bid very low and occasionally get a few. I have had no trouble with returns.

(3) BARCOA - Very similar to Paramount but not overgraded as bad. To date I have never gotten any lots.

(4) "Quality Sale" Kreisberg-Cohen - Very accurate catalogues and many prices are reasonable. I got 2 lots in their 11/30/72 Sale which were excellent.

(5) Merkin - About the same as Stacks except there is not overgrading. Walter Breen used to catalogue for them but since Walter moved to Calif about 2 months ago I don't know who will catalogue in the future. I have had one bad experience with Merkin which is too long to write out but it wasn't Merkin's fault.

(6) Hollinbeck - Kagin - The worst overgraders I've ever seen. Their "sales" are not auctions. They're just asking for bids. If the bids aren't high enough they don't let the coins go. The prices realized are

pure [redacted]. What it amounts to is that a person ~~[illegible]~~ bids in an approval sale. They accept returns without question. I have acquired some coins from them but always at high prices.

Well the letter has run 3 pages so I'd better stop now. It was good to hear from you

Sincerely

Wayne

JOHN COGAN
3790 ASHFORD DUNWOODY ROAD, N. E.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

Dear Roger:

I was very happy to receive your last letter which included the list of your half cents. I guess it goes without saying that I look forward to seeing them sometime.

I have quite a few things to mention; I'll begin with my 1807. I bought the coin a few years ago from Bowers & Ruddy as a retooled - EF. I've studied the coin under a scope and it appears that at one time the coin was very porous and had been buffed smooth. Raised, black, pin-point dots are visible under magnification around all devices as if the person working on the coin didn't want to risk getting too close to anything. Whoever did the job made it into a coin attractive-looking to the unaided eye.

The 1803 #4 I have was a good coin when I bought it. I would have bought it irregardless of what variety it was. Would you believe it

JOHN COGAN
3790 ASHFORD DUNWOODY ROAD, N. E.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

was my first 1803? I bought it only last March here in atlanta. I had many of the rarer dates ('02, '93, etc.) before I got an 1803. I was determined not to buy a low grade 1803 and as a result I didn't have one for a long time. That date is incredably hard to find above VF. I still keep looking for a high grade 03 since both of the common ones that I have (#1, #3) are both very low grade. The reverse of my #4 is rotated 180°.

I appreciate your information on the various auctions. I do plan to subscribe to several of the catalogues. You mentioned that you got 2 lots in the Quality Sales 11/27/72. If one of them was the 1795 #5b, then we ended up bidding against each other. I thought that was a great looking coin. One question about Hollinsek-Hagin. I know you mention that their auctions are phony. Do they really have the coins they "auction"? It seems they always have a couple 1796's or 1831's.

JOHN COGAN
3790 ASHFORD DUNWOODY ROAD, N. E.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

The slides of my coins are still in the making. I'm trying to get a part-time photographer to take them and we never seem to be able to get any time to get together. I will get them done sometime though.

Have you decided how or when you will publish your condition census information? I'd really like you to see my 1803 before you include it in your C.C. I was probably a little carried away when I saw the coin since it was much better than ~~of~~ any 1803 I had ever seen. In comparing it with the picture of the one in your book they are close to a ~~tooo~~ toss-up.

I'll close for now. The letter-head is my place of employment. I may never see a letter sent there. Write to me at the usual address 2884 Twin Brooks NE #3.

Sincerely,
John

Cogan

JOHN COGAN

[redacted]

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

1884 Twin Brooks Dr NE Apt 3

August 11

Dear Roger:

I hope your vacation in California was as enjoyable per hour as was the hour we spent in the airport. I wonder if there is any fanaticism other than coppers which would lead one to such extremes as a 40 mile round trip for one hour of talking. I guess coppers really are a disease which grows on you. I know for sure that I'm h hooked because I didn't even hesitate at the prospect of that midnight sojourn.

Let me fill you in on the Blue Ridge show at Birmingham. The first day I went over was Wednesday, Aug. 1st. My roommate Mike and Rad Stearns went with me. Little did I realize that I would almost be thrown off the floor. Wednesday was suppose to be for dealers only. Would you believe that right in the middle of cherry-picking an R-8 an announcement was made that anyone without a ribbon must leave the floor immediately or be physically thrown off. No way was I leaving. They were giving out ribbons for dealers and exhibitors so I charged up to the table and announced (as I was grabbing for a ribbon) that I was an exhibitor. Have you ever noticed that if you do anything with enough authority you can usually get away with it? when I got back to my coin, heart still pounding, I did some closer inspection and noticed that my 1804 # 3 was, in fact, sticking out her tongue. Drat, it was only a # 5. It was low grade and most of the obv. die damage was worn off.

After the 1804 experience I had a little better luck, but not much. I found a beautiful light brown 1828 # 1, AU55. It wasn't a new variety for me but it certainly improved my Fine 12. I'm very pleased with it. That was the extent of my buying that day.

I wasn't able to get back to Birmingham until Saturday. This time instead of 50 dealers there were 150 present. Since this was the 3rd day of the show I really wasn't too hopeful of the cherrys. I picked up 2 1804 # 5, both F 12, one with the rev. break clearly visible and the other without the break. They really aren't rare but it was a new variety for me. I got t em both from Chuck Furjanic. The real cherry picking came at Numisco Coins of Minneapolis. I got a beautiful 1826 # 2, AU 50. We settled at $32.50 for that coin. I've seen quite a few of this variety but this was the first high grade one - so a new variety for me.

JOHN COGAN
~~6793 ASHFORD DUNWOODY ROAD, N. E.~~
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

The last coin that I bought was a 1794 # 3. It's low grade AG 3 over all after considering some pitting. The date is weak so it took quite a lot of examination to be sure it wasn't # 4. Eventhough low grade I still think it's a good coin to have. I now have two of the rare 1794's - # 3 & # 7. With the addition of the 3 new varieties I now have 61 different varieties - 35 to go.

There were several other half cents at the show that are worth mentioning. First was a 1797 # 3b. The dealer, Charles Fine of Miami, graded the coin AU. When I graded it I tried to consider the poor planchets but leaned toward VF 35. Furfanic, who seens to have a knack at grading other peoples' coins very low, called it VF 25. At any rate, he wanted $ 6,000 for it. Could it possibly be worth this much?

Another coin of interest was in a lot of 11 proof half cents. It was an 1831. It was called original but one question. I was not able to see the letter projection below the wreath on the reverse. It simply wasn't there. What does this mean? not original? counterfiet? or what?

All in all it was a good show for me. I bought 5 half cents, 3 new varieties. 1795 is still frustrating me. Whenever I do find a decent one it's usually overpriced by my standards. Maybe I'm too fussy in my grading this date. I saw probably 20 1795's at the show. Well over half were variety 6a - the only one I have!

Will write again when more news developes. Keep me posted on anything exciting in the world of half cent.

Sincerely,

John Cogan

P.S. I should mention that Mike bought one large cent. Only one?- but who can complain when it's a S-1.

8/18/73

8/18/73

Dear John,

I'm enjoyed the meeting at the airport and your recent letter, so let me up date you on a few things.

We'll be in Hartley on Monday, after I get a few minutes of a trader of ENC Machine. We started Half Cent till 2:30 PM. Present were, Bill Weber who has large Half Cent collection, Hugh Campbell who also collects for 10 years until his collection to Del Reed who was also present. Reed is a dealer in both large and Half Cent. He does not have a shop but Mostly travels all over the country. Dick Wetzelberger who is a recent starter in Half Cent, and Paul Weidman who collects Half Cent but he mainly I guess is a large cents. I didn't get any coin at the meeting but I got a good deal.

Do you remember the set of fine Bagner Wheat you showed me? Well most of the better grade coins had come from Campbell collection through Reed to Bagner. I got it Bagner's store on Wednesday. There were only 2 I wanted. A 1793 Cent #1 Wheat I got. Reed didn't notice that the reverse die was doubled on it. Now since the state I was able to get it by trading a 1793 Cent #2 in F-12 and an 1808 Cent #3 in MS-60.

The other coin I now have but its a long story but I'm going to relate it. At the meeting on Monday we were discussing the 1797 Lettered Edge. I got going on how I feel that all 1797's with Obverse 3 (Sheldon)

were struck in 1800 from specially large dies.
Campbell + Blind Mariner said that the 1797 Cent #30 which
Campbell had owned had an indistinct. I looked what
happened to it. They said the Joel Rogers Sheet
This was the 1797 C-2 @ 375 in his CW all. Below
if just to Rogers show on Wednesday Rogers told me
it had been sold the day, before he that he hadn't seen
it out yet the right to examine it. The Coin is VF-30
on a very light ~~[illegible]~~ Edge planchet. Its Coin weighs 98.4
Grains & Plane of the standard 84 grains. The obverse
shows a few remains of the dentils of the large cent
but the reverse is strange to blow your mind... I'll
try to draw it. The rest is the Variety.

I told Bergen that if it wasn't sold to send it to me. After I got home I got a letter from another collector in Michigan who it turned out was the purchaser. Bergen did not tell me who the purchaser was, even though I asked him. The collector said that he didn't like the coin color!! and he was returning it despite the fact that Bergen wrote him that I would it if he didn't take it. He at any rate I now have it.

The next date trip to California was very little on coin. I did manage to pick up an 1804 coin #5 in EF-40 for 60$. The rarity rating of the variety has got to come down to a 4. Also picked up a large cent S-181 in F-15 for 30.00. It is called zone band cent.

Take a look on the 1804 coin #5 that you picked up without the break on the reverse and let me know if the ~~[illegible]~~ GOOSE has the bridge at the rim in front of Liberty's face?

The 1826 coin #2 in 50 on Stepler is very hard to locate this going. Don't apologize for the 1794 coin #3 just to have the variety is an accomplishment ~~[illegible]~~ itself.

The 1797 Cent #3.1 that you saw is probably the one I have in my records as VF-35 in the Possession of Sidney Smith of Miami. Smith reported in 1966 he had sold it for $4500 on Consignment for someone else. I think this is a fair of BS about the grade AU and sales price. It is not the finest known only 2nd. The finest known in EF-45 was sold at auction in 1970 for $2,300. The present owner is defunct Robert Show of Newton Mass. I would like to see the Coin ~~Estate~~ Charles Fine Has as I am interested in looking for Undertype and Gently the Weight. The Price is like Skylab (out of this world)

The lot of 11 Proof Half Cents was purchased by a Washington D.C. dealer Named Hal Walton. He Called Me and had Me go over them. The 1831 "original" Wasn't an original it was the restrike with the reverse of 1836 and thats Why You Could Not see the letter Projection below the Wreath. Walton Price for the 11 Coins is Ludicrous like Skylab and really Who Wants that Crap that was Made for Collectors and Property doesn't belong in a Half Cent Collection.

I'm going to Boston Next Week for ANA but don't really expect to Pick up much. By the time it gets there all the best ones will have been Gone over but I never give up hope. All I'm doing

in Half Cash is upgrading and also state. I'm also working on the Condition Classes which is really shaping up. The Commander will give me a chance to get more information and hopefully a few coins.

It was good to hear from you and when you have the urge just write again.

Sincerely
Roger

9/10/55

Dear John

I am sending you an article from
Antiques of Prospect in Ireland
that has been [illegible]

Sincerely
[illegible]

Cofan

JOHN COGAN

[redacted]

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

2884 Twin Brooks Dr. NE Apt 3

Sunday Oct. 7

Dear Roger:

I got your note and article earlier in the week. The article is great and I will have a few comments on it. The last issue of Penny-Wise was incredible. I couldn't believe all the information on half cents. I just kept devouring page after page.

I'm afraid that the days of the half cents are numbered. I've noticed a sharp increase in "common date" half cents in the last month (an increase in price, that is). I think we're in for a sharp steady price increase. I don't mind the prices increasing but I wish they'd wait ~~until~~ until I get about 30 more varieties.

Type Collector Note

A couple weeks ago I tried to make a major purchase. I called Bill Smith and asked for 3 - 1793's. They were the VG CHM-1 and VF CHM-2 & 3. Unfortunately he had sold all of them. I did buy the 1795 C-2a. I also picked up a nice VF 1795 C-5a (from B&R).

Formerly MNF

While I'm mentioning 1795's, that's the one place where I might question the rarity ratings. I don't have much experience except around Georgia but I find the C-6a to be much more common than any other 1795 variety. This is especially true in grades VF or better. I practically never see a lettered edge above Fine grade.

Most of the rarity changes that you made in the article we had discussed before. Those that we had not talked of before (like the 1809's) come as no surprise. I'll be anxious to discuss the 1804 #3 with you. My curiosity is high as to what your reasons for doubting it are. - Excellent

I like the approach that you take to the condition census at the beginning of the article. I agree that if it is used as you recommend it be used it would be helpful to half cent collectors. My main fear is that dealers will now use it the way they use the large cent CC - almost every half cent sold will now be a CC coin and thus worthy of a triple price. Thus an 1804 #8 in VF25 will be overgraded to XF40 and called CC because your census lists it in the EF column. Obviously since this coin is CC it must be worth $200.

JOHN COGAN

[redacted]

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

2884 Twin Brooks Dr. NE Apt 3

I almost hope that the dealers don't find out about your P-W article. – Mark Wan[illegible]

I found your list of contributors to be of interest. I suspect that it's probably pretty close to a who's-who of half cent collectors. I appreciate your mention of my name in the list. It might have been interesting to have another paragraph – the following half cent specialists have not assisted me!! – [illegible]

The next three weekends I'll be going to small coin shows in Georgia. Next weekend I'll be going down to Warner Robins. I met a dealer, Jim Harrell, a few weeks ago who is saving a date set of half cents. We talked a while and he said he had all but 4 dates. I mentioned that I'd like to see them sometime so we arranged a meeting at the show next weekend. I'll be anxious to see what he has since he has not attributed them. I bought a very nice 1803 #1 from

him which I grade VF-30. It's a nice light brown coin with the large reverse die break prominent. He said the 1803 in his collection was an equal match to it. Another date set that I'm trying to get to see (unsuccessfully so far) belongs to C. F. Gordon Jr. C.F. and I are good friends since he comes to all the Atlanta area shows. One evening C.F., Rod Stearns, Mike (my roommate) and myself got together and talked coppers but C.F. didn't have his with him. He hasn't said much about his collection but I have some indication since it was he who sold me my 1803 #4! (AU-50) He didn't know it was a rare variety but nonetheless if he have a letter one in his collection I'd love to see it. C.F. Hyman book

Yesterday I went to Rod Stearns's office and while he was drilling some poor victim's teeth, I was busy shooting a roll of slides. This will be my second roll of 36 slides and if they are good I'll have slides of the majority of my half cents. I have 63 varieties now.

Once again, thanks for the preview of your great article. I'll keep in touch as I pick-up more news on our beloved little coppers.

John Cogan

11/18/73

Dear John,

Don't get discouraged with the recent rise in low grade Half Cent Prices. What this is doing is to bring out Numerous specimens that have been sitting around in cigar boxes etc. While Many are the Common Varieties a Number of the Scarcer ones are showing up. A good example of this is the Number of 1805 Cmm #2 & 3 also 1804 Cmm #1, 4, 5 & 7 and 1803 Cmm # 2 + 4.

Just last week I had the good luck to relieve a type Coin dealer of a VF 1794 Cmm #8 which is a Major upgrade for Me.

In your last letter you Mentioned that you Purchased the 1795 Cmm #2a from Bill Smith This Coin has its reverse plated in my book.

I guess you've seen P.W. for 11/15 by Now However I haven't heard anything back yet. I rather doubt that dealers will use it as it is Not as specific as S. Heldens. Also Most dealers aren't even aware of it. Most of them want to Sell Silver Bars and UNC's + Proofs to investors Who are going to take a real beating when the speculation goes flat in about 2 years.

You Comments about the Half Cent speculators Who did Not assist Me is rather interesting. Actually all Persons Who I am aware of Who

and serious Collectors helped me. ~~John~~ Jon Hanson didn't help but then he's only a dealer and Not a Very sharp one at that. The other was Walter Breen. He's Not a dealer or Collector. his occupation is that of a Sales Cataloguer He Now Works for First Coin Investors which is an "Investment" oriented Sales organization.

Any luck recently in Picking up Varieties? You mentioned C.F. Gordon in your last letter. He has a copy of My book I think I sold it to him after You Purchased your 1803 cent #4

I'll ~~that~~ Close Now and hope to hear from you Soon

Sincerely
Bogen

JOHN COGAN

[redacted]

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

2884 Twin Brooks Dr., N.E., Apt 3

March 1974

Dear Roger:

The coin show last weekend had a couple interesting coins but unfortunately I couldn't buy any of them. One, of course, was the 1794 #8 that we talked about. When I went back the second day, I got a chance to take a good close look at it. There is no doubt that it was #8. The reverse clash marks were not very strong but I could see some of them. My final grade for the coin would be VF 30 or 35. It looks better because of flawless surfaces which were the color of this paper. His "list price" was $1,000. That still seems a little high and I really didn't have that much to spend anyway. The dealer was Jack & Leon Evans of Ozmonta Alabama.

The other coin of interest was a 1794 #9. The grade was "Choice AU" but I'm not sure where the grade came from. I couldn't find any wear!! The hair was sharp, even the big wave around the ear. The leaves also seems sharp. The only minus I could give

the coin in its color - very dark grey. I don't know what caused the color. There was no roughness - actually just the opposite - the surfaces were super smooth. The color was very perfectly even on both obverse and reverse. I would like to have had that coin also but who has $1,500? Can't give you the dealer on that one - I lost the card.

The rest of the show was pretty poor. Oh, one more - an 1804 #5 in EF 45 (maybe 40). Teaparty had that one. (at $295) There was an obvious lack of 1793s. I could find only 2, an AG and a VF (pitted). I've decided to try to get a couple more 93's. There are expensive but I expect they won't get any cheaper. I have only #2.

Counting the 1806 that I picked up I now have 66 half cent varieties. That leaves 30 to go. Do you have any more information on the 1804 #3 about its status and separate variety?

I imagine that the next worthwhile show that I'll be going to is in July - Blue Ridge. In between there will be some little ones. I'll let you know about anything that is of interest.

Sincerely,

John Eagan

JOHN COGAN

[redacted]

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

2894 TWIN BROOKS DRIVE NE Apt. 3

September 15, 1974

Dear Roger:

At the end of July the Blue Sides arrived. I had them officially show how to attend to. It turned out to be a very good show for me. I sold off dupes 5 half cents, attended to by Bowers and Merena. The first coin I bought was a nice one, a very choice 1853 CHM #2. The coin is a nice F-12. The surfaces show some the marks of a great strike. HALF CENT on one side and stars of the other like in early strike. There is no mint of the Bank of STATES. That is unusual to see coins, but it was more expensive in early 1850.

The next coin I bought was an 1804 #5 in EF-40. I know there are a lot of high grade specimens of this variety but this is not. I had offer one in F-12. The other coin bought was a low grade - 1801 #4 F12. I don't really know why I bought it.

Now to the Bowers coin. It was 1803 #1. It was supposed to be a very fine but I had trouble finding one of this. This was a very fine. AU-50. What really sets the coin off is its super toning

JOHN COGAN

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

Dear Sir: They really stood out strongly.

The last one, as you may have suspected, was a real stunner. How does an 1804 #7, shown AU, grab you? Well, that's the only the dealer decided to part with from among I guess at EF 45. What ~~can~~ can I say about the condition? Number of years that kept you from the coin. The coin is magnificent - frosty proof like! It must have been one of the first coins struck with that coin die. The dealer considered it "OF A" but not a cabinet. The dealer knew what he had. It really didn't know what it was worth. I really didn't know either, but I made an offer which he took. I would be interested in any information you could send me on the Type Set, specimen & other pieces.

Hope all you get above, Roger.

Sincerely,

John Cogan

6/5/75

JOHN COGAN
[redacted]
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319
2884 TWIN BROOKS DR N.E.
APT 3
ATLANTA GA 30319

Dear Roger:

It has been quite a while since I've written because the last month of the school year was very hectic time for me. Of course, I'm sure that you've had nothing to do the last few months!! The available supply of decent half cents seems to be drying up here in the Atlanta area. I still go to the local coin shows but it's more to see friends than to buy coins. Last month, out of desperation, I bought a half cent - my first purchase in 9 months - it was an 1834 in nice brown unc (When I start putting money into Turban Heads, you know times are bad.)

and speaking of Turban Heads - first let me thank you again for your efforts on my behalf at the Stack's auction. I was certainly disappointed when fashion-out bid me. I don't know what I'm doing trying to bid against his kind of bank account anyway. As it has turned out my disappointment didn't last too long. Two weeks ago I became the proud owner of an 1831 original, barely strike half cent! at ~~last~~ last my date set is complete. Now I would like to ask another favor of you. Could you send me a copy of any

information that you can give out on the 1831's known?
Now that I have one of them I'd like to know as much as possible about them. For your records, I believe my 1831 is the Melia coin sold in February by Paramount (NASC). The buyer there was World Wide and I bought it from them. As you may know, the reverse of the coin has a good number of scratches on it but the obverse is beautiful. The scratches don't really bother me, especially when I consider how much money they saved me. Now that I own the coin I wish they weren't there, but I would not have been able to afford it otherwise.

My next major purchase will probably be in the 1793 area, I have only one so far. That's one of the few dates that I can still pick up new varieties fairly easily. The only thing making it difficult is the rarity. They are certainly available. Most of the other varieties that I need are pretty hard to find. I now have 69 varieties - no subvarieties.

Keep me informed on any new stuff you get.

Sincerely
John

COGAN

ROGER S. COHEN, JR.
4720 MONTGOMERY LANE
BETHESDA, MD. 20014

6/5/75

Dear John

Glad to hear you have the 1831 I really felt had that lot Jake out bid you. Enclosed is my page on the 1831 ~~at~~ Business Strike Notice I only know of 8

Your fate on being out bid on the 1831 is similar to mine on the Coin you acquired. When I got the Mile Sale Catalogue back in 69 I bid on quite a few I sent a bid of 600⁻ for the 1831 and only received 1 lot (the 1849) I was quite disappointed then when the prices realized came out and showed 490⁻ as the winning bid I was really shook. Next time I was in Stacks (about a month later) I asked them and they claimed they didn't get my bid which was a lot of. [redacted] Since I had gotten one lot off my bid sheet. Any way since that time I always make a copy of any bid sheet I submitt and on one occasion I got a Coin that I had a record of my bid.

The only thin New I know of in Half Cent is that the 1794 6-4 + 6-7 are now known with Large edge letter ~~similar to the~~ as on the 6-9 + 6-5. I may have told you this.

What did you think of the Half Cent in Steals Sale of 5/30 + 5/31. They belonged to a Man Named Donald Partrick of New York who was Merely disposing of his duplicates. I bid as follows.

496 - 35 -
512 - 85 -
514 - 110 -
518 - 75 -

Needless to say I got a Note today from Steals advising me I got Nothing.

This is all for Now and let me know if you'll be up this Way. I've got some time Now to show off.

Sincerely
Roger

S. & L. HALF CENTS
AND LARGE CENTS
1793-1857

MEMBER ANA LA.

WILLIAM R. T. SMITH
P. O. BOX 514
WILMETTE, ILLINOIS 60091
312-256-2714

John Cogan
3-28-76

HALF CENTS: 1793 - 1857

93	1	4	12	1802	1	2		1809	2	3	12	1796	EC		
	2	3	5		2	1	30		3	4	20	1811	MR		
	3	1		1803	1	2	25		4	1	40	1837	TK		
	4	2	12		2	4	12		5	5	30	1854	CN		
1794	5a	9	12		3	3	30		6	2	30	1856	CN		
	5b	9S			4	1	50	1810	1	1	40				
	1	5	12	1804	1	6	12	1811	1	2	20			PROOFS	
	2b	5L			2	10/6			2	1	12		ORIG	RE-1	
	3	7	2		3	6/10		1825	1	2	11	1831			
	4	[illegible]	15		4	10			2	1	50	1836			
	5	8	15		5	11	40	1826	1	1	35	1840			
	[illegible]	6			6	8	40		2	2	50	1841			
	7	2	3		7	9	45	1828	1	2	55	1842			
	8	[illegible]	15		8	7	30		2	3	50	1843			
	9	1			9	5	40		3	1	55	1844			
1795	1	1			10	4	30	1829	1	1	20	1845			
	2a	3	15		11	1	20	1831	1	1	20	1846			
	2b	3			12	3		1832	1	2	40	1847			
	3	7			13	2	45		2	1	40	1848			
	4	4	12	1805	1	1	50		[illegible]	3		1849			
	5a	6	20		2	4		1833	1	1	35	1852			
	5b	6K			3	3		1834	1	1	60				
	6a	5	30		4	2	40	1835	1	2	55			DUPLICATES	
	6b	5K		1806	1	1	40		2	1	65				
1796	1	2			2	2	4	1849	1	3	30				
	2	1	3		3	1/2		1850	1	1	55				
1797	1	[illegible]	12		4	3	50	1851	1	1	50				
	2	3	12	1807	1	1	30	1853	1	1	40				
	3a	2	8	1808	1	1/N		1854	1	1	25				
	3b	1			2	1	10	1855	1	1	60				
	3c	2M			3	2	45	1856	1	1	40				
1800	1	1	40	1809	1	3/N	4	1857	1	1	45				

11/27/75

Half Cent Quiz

(1)

	CBV	REV
93	2	3
94	5	5
95	3	4
96	2	1
97	3	2
00	1	1
02	1	1
03	2	3
04	5	6
05	3	2
06	3	2
07	1	0
08	2	2
09	5	5
20	1	1
[illegible]	2	1
25	2	2
26	2	1
28	3	3
29	1	1
31	1	1
32	2	2
33	1	1
34	1	0
35	2	1
	55	50

11/15/75 QUIZ

(2) Reverse of

(a) 1800 [illegible] Wall 1808 - 1809 v obverse dies

(b) Reverse C of 1803 [illegible] 1803 + 1804 obverse dies ✓

(c) Reverse C of 1804 [illegible] 1804 1805 + 1806 obverse dies

(d) Reverse B of 1803 [illegible] 1806 + 1807 obverse dies ✓

(e) Reverse [illegible] of 1828 [illegible] 1828 1829 + 1830 obverse dies

(f) Reverse A of 1828 [illegible] 1830 1831 + 1832 obverse dies

(g) Reverse A of 1831 [illegible] 1831 + 1832 obverse dies

(h) Reverse A of 1833 [illegible] 1833, 1834 + 1835 obverse dies

(3)

(a) 1811 [illegible] 1814 [illegible] 1811 + 1812

(b) 1816 [illegible] 1817

(c) 1817 [illegible] 1818 [illegible] 1818 + 1819

(4)

Reverse [illegible] 1833

Reverse B of 1833

(5)

1794	1795	1797
1	2	3
2	5	3
3	5	
4		
5		
5	3	3

11 known

Left [illegible]

6 1811 Variety Omm #1

7 1811 Omm #1 + 1816 Omm #2

CUD [illegible] & more [illegible]

Note comparison

8 No, [illegible] der [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] 2 + 3 [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] 1 + 2 [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

9

1793	Revers A	Rhein Bremen
1794	abverso 3	Rhein Bremen
1794	Revers B	Rhein Bremen
1800	abverso 1	Rhein Bremen
1803	Revers B	Rhein Bremen
1803	abverse 2	Rhein Bremen
1804	abverse 2	Rhein Bremen
1804	abverse 1a	Rhein Bremen
1804	Revers C	Rhein Bremen
1804	Revers D	Rhein Bremen
1804	abverse 3	Rhein Bremen
1804	Revers A	Rhein Bremen
1806	Revers B	Rhein Bremen
1807	abverse 1	Rhein Bremen
1807	Revers B	Rhein Bremen
1807	abverse 4	Rhein Bremen
1807	abverse 5	Rhein Bremen
1811	abverse 1	Rhein Bremen
1812	abverse 2	Rhein Bremen

10 1) Alvoni Sale

2) Bremen

3 Kwalitäten Report

Corpus
2.8.84 Tuba Bremen
Dr. Nr. 43
cit. Bremen
31319

Dear Roger:

Enclosed you will find the "Half Cent" add that we talked about. Also included in the current update on my collection. I'm hoping to make it dated this weekend at the GNA (Georgia Numismatic Convention). It sure would be a fun show to pick-up a couple new varieties.

Sincerely,

John Cogan

JOHN COGAN
2884 Twin Brooks Dr NE #3
~~3130 ASHFORD DUNWOODY ROAD, N. E.~~
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319

May 7th, 1976

Dear Roger:

I wanted to let you know the results of my attempts to get that 1796 no pole. The dealer who owns it (from N.J.) sent it to a dealer here in Atlanta. I saw it last Saturday. Unquestionably a CAST. It had one large (leaf size) and two smaller casting bubbles on the reverse. Do I have to tell you how disappointed I was?

I bought the 1805 C-3 from Flynn. The price I considered outrageous but the coin is really beautiful. It's a nice VG-10 by anyone's standards. The surface made me a buyer. It's just the kind of coin that I like because it's very attractive for the grade.

I have a pretty nice 1794 C-8 extra. Do you know of anyone who may have a 1794 C-6 or 1795 C-3 for trade?

I'm hoping to get up there sometime this summer. I still have never seen your collection.

Sincerely,

Jack

5/24/76

COSDN

Dear John

Thanks for the info on the Great Easton Collection 1794 C-2. That was a good piece of destiny work. I would suggest you write an account of what happened for Penny-Wise be careful though state in your opinion the coin is a Cent. This prevents possible problems.

I think you may be a little conservative in your grading of the 1805 C-3 from the Showers Collection I have never seen the coin but Del Bland gave me a list of what he evaluated the Collection. The coin was graded as a F-15. I also have photos of the Collection and I agree with him. I'd like to see the coin as well as your Collection. This summer should be a good time for both of us to show off. Let's try to set a time.

As for your 1794 C-8 I don't know anyone who has a 94 C-6 or 95 C-3 but one Collector I know can use the C-8. I would suggest you write to him directly. I'll drop him a note when I forward this to you. His name and address is:

GENE C. BRAIG
P.O. Box 965
ELYRIA OHIO 44035

Thanks again for your letter

Sincerely

Rec 10/15/76

I'm enclosing a copy of a Bowers & Ruddy auction lot that I know you'll want to know of. I'm not sure if you were already aware of this or not. Nothing else in the catalogue is significant.

I was disappointed that I didn't get to see you at ANA. I decided only at the last minute to fly up. My main reason for going up was the '96 No pole. It really hurt but I had to drop out at $6000. as I'm sure you know it sold for $6250. The trip itself was a success anyway, however, since I cherrypicked a beautiful 1806 C-2. The coin has beautiful color and a nice strike. I grade it AU-50. It is certainly an improvement over my good-4.

Another high-light of the week was meeting all the other half cent collectors who were there. Many of the people who had responded to that P-W ad and whom I had since corresponded with, I had a chance to meet and talk with. When you're as far away from other collectors as I am it's really fun to talk half cents for ~~hours~~ hours after hour. I also enjoyed showing off my 1806!

I made another attempt at a No Pole in the Stack's Farm sale last Saturday. I call and found out that I didn't get it either. I'm not having much luck buying one of those darn things. I don't think I've added any coins to my collection except the 1806 since the last time I wrote. It's really starting to get hard to add new coins to the collection. I can imagine the problem you have! Someday I hope to have the same problem. Speaking of someday when will ~~the~~ we be able to show-off collections? Soon I hope.

John Cogar

10/25/76

John Cogan
1884 Tom Brooks Dr. NE #3
Atlanta GA 30319

Called on phone 11/7/76

Dear John,

Enclosed is the supplement to my book which I am sending out with each New Purchase. My stock of unsold copies is getting quite low 400 Now out of the 2000 Printed 5 Years ago.

It was my feeling 5 years ago that perhaps the book would go into a New Edition Now but I don't think it Needs it Yet. The supplement Contains the basic data Needed to update the book in my opinion I'd like to get your opinion.

The Condition Census, I feel should be determined by the Group of 1/2 Cent Collectors and dealers who are active at the time that it made up I am Constantly updating What I published in the November 15, 1973 issue of Penny-Wise Thanks for the data on B+R's Sale of 11/11-13/76 in which another 1796 #2 is now shows up. I'm Not on their mailing list and Now as I haven't been a big Customer of theirs and I haven't required to be on their list.

Sorry I missed you at ANA I only got there for Saturday and didn't get Anything on 1/2 Cents. I heard about the 1806 you picked up at the bidding on the 1796 No Pole. I also heard about Mr Schoenwalter's Coins. I had heard of him Previously but Could Never seem to get in Contact

You and I both missed out on the Ferm specimen of the 1796 #1. I was after it as it is one of my Plate Coins. I sent a mail bid of $5,600 and called the day before the auction and found it was going to open at $4,100. I imagine my dismay when I called on Tuesday 10/14 and found the price was $5,750. I wonder who topped my bid. I guess I'll just have to be satisfied with the one I have. It is in about the same condition and obviously if I had gotten the Ferm specimen you would have had front row at my duplicate.

When do you think you could come to Washington to show off? I'm having Bob Gyuel here on the weekend of 11/13-14. I'm trying to attend the Meeting on 11/16 in Ann Arbor Mich which was mentioned in the last "Penny-Wise". I don't know if I can go so haven't told anyone I will definitely be there. If you can make either one of these dates let me know. Should be able to work something out.

Sincerely
Roger

March 4, 1977

Dear Roger:

I want to thank you for the days that you put up with me during the Christmas holidays. I enjoyed the chance to get away from Atlanta for a while. The half-cent talk was super. Every time I get a chance to talk to you I feel like I learn a lot. The last time I especially wanted to learn more about grading high grade Caps. Your collection served my purpose beautifully. I had really never had an opportunity to see very many Caps and certainly nothing high grade.

You may remember me telling you about the collection here in Atlanta that I thought I'd get a chance at. I did. There were some problems involved and it didn't work out exactly how I would have hoped for but I got some excellent coins anyway. First let me tell you about what got away.

1795 C-1 EF-40. It would have been a new variety so it really hurts to lose it. The coin may have been cleaned a long time ago since it did have some rainbow coloring on the obverse.

1795 C-2 AU-50+ a fabulous and flawless reverse. Might be better graded as 45/60. The obverse had one medium pet mark on the cap. That was the only spot on the whole coin.

I've been trying for a long time to get a nice high grade lettered edge '95. I was very disappointed to lose both of these.

Now for what didn't get away:

1804 C-12 AU-50 Possibly lacquered ~~or~~ it is very shiny. It's a nice job, though; even a scope ~~doesn't~~ doesn't show any bubbling. Not exactly a super strike but it is a new variety. That's #77.

1811 C-1 VF-30 a beautiful 1811 with the 4* break. It's about 10 points better than the one that I had. a question for you — Is it possible to get a 4* break with the centers in all 4 stars? actually I know the answer. My VF-20 has no centers and my VF-30 has 4-centers, just barely visible.

1794 C-9 XF-45 I Love it!! at last a high grade cop of my own! and how I love the strike on this variety. The relief is so deep "that you could drive a truck through it — but it would have to be a 4-wheel drive"! The reverse has the rim crumbling below the denominator so the strike is late. also there is a clear crack connecting BERTY. Is this crack standard? New variety. That's #78.

1795 C-4 AU-50 MAybe better! I Love it even more!! I can't go 60 as a grade because there are a few random scratches visible — of course it took the 20-power on the scope to see them! The pot marks are visible on the face, similar to yours. The reverse crack is complete across the coin so I presume it is a fairly late state. HALFCENT, which weak, is completely readable. The planchet is super.

I'm very anxious to let you see this coin. The only bad thing about the coin was the price. I had to pay a full VF price. How outrageous!

I am enclosing a check for $27 for the 3 books. I haven't sold them yet but I really don't mind hanging on to them. They'll say good as new as long as I keep them wrapped.

I'll be in Washington the week of March 28 - April 1. Unfortunately so will about 45 seventh graders from my school. I doubt that I'll have a chance to get out to see you but I'm sure I'll be able to call.

Once again, thanks for the fun hospitality.

John Cogan

TO: JOHN COGAN
2884 TWINBROOKS PARKWAY
ATLANTA GA. 30319

ROGER S. COHEN, JR., P. A.
Certified Public Accountants
4720 MONTGOMERY LANE
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20014
Phone: 657-2240

MESSAGE

SUBJECT Your letter of 3/4/77 DATE 8/8/77 FOLD

Thanks for your description of the Coins you acquired
I hope to see them when they in Atlanta

I will arrive at the airport at 9:25 PM on 8/25 We're staying at the Sheraton Atlanta this 2 Blocks from the Marriott. We leave Sunday 8/28 at 12:23 PM so lets have a wheel Match for all who are interested.

See you then

SIGNED Roger

TO: JOHN COGAN
2564 TWINBROOKS PARKWAY
ATLANTA GA. 30319

FROM:

ROGER S. COHEN, JR., P. A.
Certified Public Accountants
~~4733 BETHESDA AVENUE~~
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20014
Phone: (301) 657-2240

PO BOX 41046

MESSAGE

SUBJECT LONG TIME NO WAITE DATE 5/28/79 FOL

Been Meaning to Write to You Since January. I was at the EAC Meeting in Fla Sold a Copy of My book and a Number of Nice Comments to

CARL A. ANDERSON
8945 HUNTCLIFF TRACE
ATLANTA GA. 30338

Thought You Might appreciate knowing ~~there~~ there's another Half Cent Nut in Your area. He has also Joined EAC

Hope Pick-up much except some Minor upgrades. Lately. What have You been up to.

SIGNED Roger

TO: JOHN A COHAN
1337 HEHRST DR
ATLANTA GA 30319

FROM:

ROGER S. COHEN, JR., P. A.
Certified Public Accountants
4701 SANGAMORE ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20016
Phone: (301) 229-7700

MESSAGE

SUBJECT BOOK ORDER

DATE 11/8/82

FOLD

Sir.

Your Check is being returned to you as we can not accept a Paid Order from you. In view of your help and assistance over the years you are entitled to receive a complimentary copy as you have contributed to our work. The copy should be mailed by January 31st I hope.

Good to hear from you

SIGNED Roger

Dear Roger:

I look forward to receiving your new book on Half Cents.

Hope you have a great New Year.

Jack Cogan
1337 Hearst Dr.
Atlanta, GA, 30319

Phone
237-0252